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|----|---|---|---|---|---|
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| FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: | Version # | APP # 700184 |
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|----------------------|-----------|--------------|

1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

The Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTNA) is 39.5 square miles of prime natural habitat set aside for the desert tortoise, the official California State Reptile. The Mojave population of the desert tortoise (Gopherus agassizii) is listed as threatened, both in the state of California and federally. Within the designated boundary of this preserve lies of prime habitat that historically supported one of the highest tortoise population densities known. The preserve boasts other flora and fauna representative of the intricate Mojave Desert ecosystem, including the threatened Mohave ground Squirrel (Spermophilus mohavensis). In 1980, the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of Interior, recognized the significance of the DTNA by designating it an "Area of Critical Environmental Concern" and as a "Research Natural Area". The DTNA lies in the northwestern Mojave Desert on the western edge of the Rand Mountains in eastern Kern County. It is 5.5 miles northeast of California City, a hot spot for OHV recreation.

The majority of the perimeter of the DTNA was fenced in the 1970s with the cooperation of the Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee (Committee) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). At the time of installation, fencing was installed to allow desert tortoises to move freely into and out of the DTNA. The fence was installed to prevent trespass and to maintain the pristine habitat within the DTNA. Now, thirty years later, the recreation pressures at and around the DTNA have increased substantially and the Committee must alter our management methods in our efforts to protect the threatened desert tortoise to the best of our abilities.

Roads provide access to all regions of the desert and we know that desert tortoises have been killed and injured by vehicles using paved and dirt roads and trails. We do not know, however, how many have been killed or injured by road use because of the vast area of the desert. Fencing is helping protect tortoises in both the Sonoran and Mojave deserts from being killed on many roads. Annual road mortality of desert tortoises has decreased by 75 percent or more since Highway Departments began installing barrier fencing. To this end, the Committee proposes to add desert tortoise exclusion fencing to the existing fence line that is adjacent to highly used roads. The tortoise exclusion fencing will be installed using the specifications developed and suggested by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Desert Tortoise Recovery Office. We propose to install desert tortoise exclusion fencing in three one-mile increments along the southern and eastern boundaries of Section 4 and along the southern boundary of section 34 at the DTNA.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

While the proposal to add desert tortoise exclusion fencing to the existing fence on previously specified portions of the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTNA) does little to add to or enhance OHV recreation the project will function to sustain OHV recreation in and around California City. Please remember that among OHV enthusiasts California City represents one of the last bastions of off-road recreational riding/driving. Many OHV areas in Southern California have been closed, downsized or strictly limited. Consequently, keeping the California City desert open, as a viable riding area is important to OHV recreationists. The installation of desert tortoise exclusion fencing in high OHV traffic areas will prevent accidental deaths of desert tortoises resulting from vehicle impacts. Maintaining high desert tortoise populations within the boundaries of the DTNA will reduce pressure to close existing OHV routes.

Additionally, maintaining populations of special -status species at the DTNA is important to OHV recreationists. Visitation at the DTNA is closely monitored each spring. According to recorded data in 2007 and 2008 approximately half of the visitors arriving at the DTNA's Interpretive Center did so on OHVs (48% in 2007 and 46.4% in 2008). Maintaining the populations of special-status species within the DTNA is important to all of our visitors, including OHV riders. The DTNA is an important learning opportunity and recreation location for off-roaders in the area of California City.

C. Size of the Project

This project will fund the installation of three linear miles of desert tortoise exclusion fencing at the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTNA).

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D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

The area around the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTNA) supports a large amount of OHV recreation for 12 months of the year. Opportunities are provided for three or more OHV types. In addition to OHV opportunity that has been in place for years, a recent route re-opening has increased OHV traffic substantially in the area. In 2002 the Bureau of Land Management closed OHV routes in the Western Rand's because users were not staying on trail. The Center for Biological Diversity sued the BLM for not being able to control the public and the routes were closed. A recent grant written by Ed Waldheim on behalf of Friends of Jawbone allowed for R 5 and R 50 to be reopened by putting a fence on both sides of the trail. This route has been closed for six years and its re-opening adds 15 miles of trails to the public for access to Munsy Road or travel to Randsburg.

Although the route re-opening doesn't have direct impacts at the DTNA, there are many indirect impacts to the area. The increased public access has resulted in increasing OHV traffic in and around California City. There is also a new California City OHV trail from Borax Bill park and route linkage connecting Jawbone, Cal City, C park and Randsburg via CC10 and CC5 connectors to BLM R5 and R10.

2. Rerouting Requirements

| Rero | Rerouting | | | | | | | |
|------|--|-----------|---------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| (a) | Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails? | ☐ Yes | ☑ No | | | | | |
| | If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen) | plans are | required (See | | | | | |
| | If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting | | | | | | | |

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Additional Documentation for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 6/2/2009 Agency: Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc. Application: Ground Operations-Fencing

| | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: | Version # | APP # 700184 | | | | |
|----|---|----------------------|---------------------------------|--------|--|--|--|
| 1. | Project Timeline (Required if project in | ncludes necessary re | <i>.</i> , | | | | |
| | Attachments: | | DTPC Project Timeline-FE | NCING | | | |
| 2. | Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting) | | | | | | |
| | Attachments: | | Desert Tortoise Exclusion F | encing | | | |
| 3 | Project-Specific Maps | | | | | | |
| | Attachments: | | Desert Tortoise Exclusion Fenci | ng Map | | | |

4. Optional Project-Specific Application Documents

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Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 Agency: Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc. Application: Ground Operations-Fencing

| | | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: | Version # _ | | | APP # | | |
|-------|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| APPL | ICANT NAME : | Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc. | | | | | | |
| PROJ | ECT TITLE : | Ground Operations-Fencing | | | | PROJECT NUME (Division use on | • | |
| PROJ | ECT TYPE : | l ' | Developmen | t | □ Edu | cation & Safety | Ground C | perations |
| | | Law Enforcement | Planning | | Res | toration | | |
| PROJ | ECT DESCRIPTION : | The Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area Reptile. The Mojave population of the deser designated boundary of this preserve lies of boasts other flora and fauna representative mohavensis). In 1980, the Bureau of Land Critical Environmental Concern" and as a "Mountains in eastern Kern County. It is 5.5 in The majority of the perimeter of the DTNA we Bureau of Land Management (BLM). At the The fence was installed to prevent trespass around the DTNA have increased substantiat tortoise to the best of our abilities. Roads provide access to all regions of the distrails. We do not know, however, how many tortoises in both the Sonoran and Mojave do or more since Highway Departments began existing fence line that is adjacent to highly U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Desert Tortothe southern and eastern boundaries of Sections. | t tortoise (Go prime habita of the intricate Management, Research Naturalles northeate vas fenced in time of installally and the Collegert and we have been killeserts from beinstalling bar used roads. Toise Recovery | pherus agassizii) is that historically sue Mojave Desert ed, U.S. Department oural Area". The Dist of California City the 1970s with the llation, fencing was ain the pristine habit momittee must alter know that desert to lilled or injured by roeing killed on many rier fencing. To this he tortoise exclusion of the composition of the cortoise exclusion of | listed as the pported one cosystem, in of Interior, refund lies in the cooperation installed to itat within the rour mana cortoises have ad use becomed. Annual send, the Confencing was to installed to itat within the rour mana cortoises have added to the confencing was to installed. | areatened, both in the state of the highest tortoise including the threatened becognized the significant the northwestern Mojave for OHV recreation. In of the Desert Tortoise allow desert tortoises to be DTNA. Now, thirty ye gement methods in our live been killed and injure cause of the vast area of the vast area. | ate of California and population densities Mohave ground Squi ace of the DTNA by do a Desert on the western Preserve Committee of move freely into an ears later, the recreat efforts to protect the doby vehicles using part tortoises has decaded desert tortoise exercipes add desert tortoise exercipes and properties and desert tortoise exercipes and desert tortoise e | ederally. Within the known. The preserve rel (Spermophilus esignating it an "Area of rn edge of the Rand (Committee) and the dout of the DTNA. On pressures at and hreatened desert eaved and dirt roads and is helping protect reased by 75 percent clusion fencing to the oped and suggested by |
| | Line Item | | Qty | Rate | UOM | Grant Request | Matc | Total |
| DIRE | DIRECT EXPENSES | | | | | | | |
| Progr | am Expenses | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Staff | | | | | | | |

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Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 Agency: Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc. Application: Ground Operations-Fencing

| Line Item | Qty | Rate | UOM | Grant Request | Match | Total | |
|---|---------|-----------|------|---------------|-----------|-----------|--|
| fencing along the perimenter of the DTNA because the original plan allowed tortoises to move freely into and out of the DTNA. | | | | | | | |
| Other-Project Supervisor Notes: The Project Supervisor will monitor the installation of desert tortoise exclusion fencing to ensure that there is minimal impact to existing vegetation in the area. The Project Supervisor will also ensure that the work is completed properly. | 123.000 | 25.000 | HRS | 0.00 | 3,075.00 | 3,075.00 | |
| Total for Staff | | | | 0.00 | 5,535.00 | 5,535.00 | |
| 2 Contracts | | | | | | | |
| Other-Fencing Installation Notes: The contract work will cover the materials and installation of desert tortoise exclusion fencing. | 3.000 | 27684.090 | MI | 67,823.94 | 15,228.06 | 83,052.00 | |
| 3 Materials / Supplies | | | | | | | |
| 4 Equipment Use Expenses | | | | | | | |
| 5 Equipment Purchases | | | | | | | |
| 6 Others | | | | | | | |
| Administrative Costs | | | | | | | |
| Administrative Costs-Insurance Notes: Administrative costs include funding for: insurance and fuel for vehicles used to monitor the project; fuel to attend meetings with interested parties; and fuel to attend meeting with the Bureau of Land Management Ridgecrest Field Office to update the Desert Tortoise Natural Area's Habitat Management Plan. | 120.000 | 20.000 | HRS | 0.00 | 2,400.00 | 2,400.00 | |
| Administrative Costs-Fuel | 400.000 | 2.500 | MISC | 0.00 | 1,000.00 | 1,000.00 | |
| Total for Administrative Costs | | | | 0.00 | 3,400.00 | 3,400.00 | |
| Total Program Expenses | | | | 67,823.94 | 24,163.06 | 91,987.00 | |

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 Agency: Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc. Application: Ground Operations-Fencing

| | Line Item | Qty | Rate | UOM | Grant Request | Match | Total |
|-------|-----------------|-----|------|-----|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| TOTAL | DIRECT EXPENSES | | | | 67,823.94 | 24,163.06 | 91,987.00 |
| TOTAL | _ EXPENDITURES | | | | 67,823.94 | 24,163.06 | 91,987.00 |

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Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009 Agency: Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc. Application: Ground Operations-Fencing

| | Line Item | Grant Request | Match | Total | Narrative | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|--|--|
| DIRI | DIRECT EXPENSES | | | | | | | |
| Prog | gram Expenses | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Staff | 0.00 | 5,535.00 | 5,535.00 | | | | |
| 2 | Contracts | 67,823.94 | 15,228.06 | 83,052.00 | | | | |
| 3 | Materials / Supplies | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | |
| 4 | Equipment Use Expenses | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | |
| 5 | Equipment Purchases | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | |
| 6 | Others | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | | | |
| 7 | Administrative Costs | 0.00 | 3,400.00 | 3,400.00 | | | | |
| Total Program Expenses | | 67,823.94 | 24,163.06 | 91,987.00 | | | | |
| тот | AL DIRECT EXPENSES | 67,823.94 | 24,163.06 | 91,987.00 | | | | |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | | 67,823.94 | 24,163.06 | 91,987.00 | | | | |

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS) for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc.
Application: Ground Operations-Fencing

| | FC | OR OFFICE USE ONLY: | Version # | APP # 700184 | | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|---|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----|----------|-----|----------|
| I | TEM 1 and ITE | M 2 | | | | | | |
| a. | ITEM 1 - Has a | a CEQA Notice of Determina Yes or No) | tion (NOD) been | filed for the Project? | С | Yes | • | No |
| | ITEM 2 | | | | | | | |
| b. | ITEM 2 - Are t (Please select | • • | ject" under CEQ | A Guidelines Section 15378? | • | Yes | С | No |
| C. | and ensure pu | n is requesting funds solely f blic safety. These activities v nd are thus not a "Project" ur | vould not cause | , , , , | С | Yes | C | No |
| d. | • | why proposed activities wou | • | physical impacts on the envir | onn | nent and | are | thus not |

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

The Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee's [DTPC] application for funding to install desert tortoise exclusion fencing will have no impact on wetlands or navigable waters.

The impacts of this desert tortoise exclusion fencing project on sensitive habitats and species are positive and significant. The Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area [DTNA] is 39.5 square miles of prime natural habitat and had one of the finest known populations of the threatened desert tortoise, the official California State reptile. In 1980, the Bureau of Land Management [BLM], U.S. Department of the Interior, designated the Desert Tortoise Natural Area as a "Research Area" and an "Area of Critical Environmental Concern". Although the DTNA was established specifically to protect the desert tortoise there are a variety of other plants and animals that benefit from the prime habitat that is preserved in the name of the desert tortoise.

The DTNA lies in the northwestern Mojave Desert on the western edge of the Rand Mountains in eastern Kern County. It is 5.5 miles northeast of California City, a hot spot for OHV recreation. The majority of the perimeter of the DTNA was fenced in the 1970s with the cooperation of the DTPC and the BLM. At the time of installation, fencing was installed to allow desert tortoises to move freely into and out of the DTNA. The fence was installed to prevent trespass and to maintain the pristine habitat within the DTNA. Now, thirty years later, the recreation pressures at and around the DTNA have increased substantially and the Committee must alter our management methods in our efforts to protect the threatened desert tortoise to the best of our abilities.

Roads provide access to all regions of the desert and we know that desert tortoises have been killed and injured by vehicles using paved and dirt roads and trails. We do not know, however, how many have been killed or injured by road use because of the vast area of the desert. Fencing is helping protect tortoises in both the Sonoran and Mojave deserts from being killed on many roads. Annual road mortality of desert tortoises has decreased by 75 percent or more since Highway Departments began installing barrier fencing. To this end, the DTPC proposes to add desert tortoise exclusion fencing to the existing fence line at the nexus of the DTNA boundary and highly used roads. The tortoise exclusion fencing will be installed using the specifications developed and suggested by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Desert Tortoise Recovery Office. The installation of this fencing has been directly linked to improving the survivorship of desert tortoises throughout their range. The installation of the desert tortoise exclusion fencing will function directly to protect the threatened desert tortoise. This implementation of this project would also function to protect other animals from deadly vehicle encounters, including the threatened Mojave ground squirrel.

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

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No negative cumulative impacts are foreseen as a result of implementing the installation of desert tortoise exclusion fencing project such as increased noise or traffic. All desert tortoise exclusion fencing will be installed on a pre-existing fence line. Disturbance in the project area [i.e. increased noise or traffic] will only occur during the installation of the desert tortoise exclusion fencing. There will be very little disturbance to the natural habitat during the implementation of the project as the three linear installations of desert tortoise exclusion fencing will occur along existing roadways. Vehicles and equipment used to complete the project will be able to access the project area from the existing road ways. Very little damage to the flora of the area is expected due to the existence of roads and fencing in the area. Additionally, Fence

Corp., the company to be contracted to complete services, has worked regularly with the Desert Tortoise Preserve

Committee and has experience installing fence with minimal impacts to vegetation.

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

The installation of desert tortoise exclusion fencing will not have any significant effect on the environment due to steep slopes or highly erosive soils. The desert tortoise exclusion fencing will not be installed on steep slopes, but on virtually flat areas. The disturbance of the soil to install the exclusion fencing will be a one time event. So, although the soils near the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area [DTNA] are subjected to high winds, the limited time frame of the disturbance will significantly reduce the possibility of long-term effects on the environment related to soil loss.

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

The Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee's application for funding to install desert tortoise exclusion fencing has no potential for damage to scenic resources within the viewshed of a highway officially designated as a state scenic highway. The work to be funded by this grant would take place entirely within Kern County, California. According to the California Scenic Highway Mapping System [www.dot.ca.gov] there are no designated state scenic highways in Kern County. Additionally the exclusion fencing is slated to be added to an existing fence line. There will be no new impacts to any scenic resources.

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Yes No Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No)

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to Yes No historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No)

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

The installation of desert tortoise exclusion fencing proposed by the Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee [DTNA] does not have the potential to cause indirect significant impacts, either to the surrounding environment or to user groups.

The installation of exclusion fencing will not result in user groups going elsewhere due to the fact that off-highway vehicle [OHV] recreation is prohibited within the boundaries of the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area [DTNA]. OHV recreationists visit the DTNA to experience the beauty of the prime natural habitat. Rather than causing OHV user groups to go elsewhere, the installation of exclusion fencing will protect the inherent values of the DTNA, which are highly valued by visitors to the DTNA who represent the OHV community.

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Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS) for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee, Inc.
Application: Ground Operations-Fencing

The area around the DTNA already supports a large amount of OHV recreation for 12 months of the year for a variety of OHV types. In addition to OHV opportunity that has been in place for years, a recent route re-opening has increased OHV traffic substantially in the area. In 2002 the Bureau of Land Management closed OHV routes in the Western Rand's. A recent grant written on behalf of the Friends of Jawbone allowed for R 5 and R 50 to be reopened by putting a fence on both sides of the trail. This route has been closed for six years and its re-opening adds 15 miles of trails to the public for access to Munsy Road or travel to Randsburg. Although the route re-opening does not have direct impacts at the DTNA, there are many indirect impacts to the area. The increased public access has resulted in increasing OHV traffic in and around California City. There is also a new California City OHV trail from Borax Bill park and route linkage connecting Jawbone, California City, Camp C and Randsburg via CC10 and CC5 connectors to BLM R5 and R10. Rather than causing significant impacts off-site, the exclusion fencing project proposed by the DTPC works to reduce off-site impacts by protecting desert tortoises from unintentional vehicle collisions. Reducing off-site impacts to wildlife near the DTNA, especially to the threatened desert tortoise and the Mohave ground squirrel, which is a threatened species, will reduce pressure to close existing OHV routes in the area.

This exclusion fencing project does not have potential to significantly increase use in the vicinity of the project site.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

Documentation of Land Use Conformance and Nepa Adequacy (DNA)

<u>Draft Environmental Impact Report</u>

Executive Summary

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6/2/2009

| | | Application. Ground Operations-Fencing |
|----|----|---|
| | | FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Version # APP # 700184 |
| 1. | | Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate) |
| | 1. | As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 3 |
| | | (Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list) 76% or more (10 points) 51% - 75% (5 points) 26% - 50% (3 points) |
| | | © 25% (Match minimum) (No points) |
| 2. | | Failure to Complete - Q 2. |
| | 2. | Failure to complete the Project would result in: 8 |
| | | (Check all that apply): Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values) ✓ Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points) ✓ Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points) ✓ Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points) ✓ Potential trespass (2 points) ✓ Additional damage to Facilities (1 point) |
| | | Explain each statement that was checked |
| | | If special-staus species aren't protected and losses of animals occur, there is a potential for a loss of OHV opportunity to due to routes being closed. Damage to special-status species: Failure to complete the project would result in damage to special- status species. The purpose of this project is to install desert tortoise exclusion fencing to existing fencing where a nexus occurs between the boundary of the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTNA) and high traffic routes used by OHV recreationists. Failure to complete the project would result in potential losses of the state and federally threatened desert tortoise and potential losses of Mohave ground squirrel to due vehicle impacts. |
| 3. | | Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3. |
| | 3. | The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 1 |
| | | (Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values) ☐ Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points) ☐ Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points) ☐ Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points) ☑ Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point) ☐ Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point) |
| | | Explain each statement that was checked |

Explain each statement that was checked

Maintaining multi-use: The project would sustain OHV opportunity by maintaining multi-use OHV recreation. The installation of desert tortoise exclusion fencing will help the survival of threatened desert tortoises and Mohave ground squirrels at the Desert Tortoise Research Natural Area (DTNA). Protecting these special-status animals in and around California City, California will help reduce pressure on the currently available OHV routes. Protecting these threatened species within the DTNA will allow routes outside the DTNA to stay open for multi-use recreation purposes.

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

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Application: Ground Operations-Fencing

(Check all that apply): Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

| | | Meeting(s) with the general public to disc | |
|----|----|--|--|
| | | Conference call(s) with interested parties | (1 point) |
| | | ☐ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point) | |
| | | Explain each statement that was checked | |
| | | members of the general public, members from Angeles County Fish & Game Commissioner, the meeting. Our intention to apply for the OH which we were requesting funds. Attendees we suggestions. Conference calls were held with targeting high traffic areas around the boundary | and Meeting in Lancaster, California on 1/24/2009. Interested in several chapters of the California Turtle and Tortoise Club, a Los and representatives from the BLM Ridgecrest Field Office attended IV grant opportunity was announced as were the types of projects for were given the opportunity to comment on the projects and give interested parties and the primary topic of discussion involved ry of the DTNA. The high cost of fencing, makes it very important thigh risk for tortoise-vehicle encounters. The conference calls high or increasing volume of traffic. |
| 5. | ι | Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5. | |
| | 5. | The Project will utilize partnerships to success organizations that will participate in the Project | fully accomplish the Project. The number of partner t are 4 |
| | | (Check the one most appropriate) (Please seld | ect one from list) |
| | | © 4 or more (4 points) | C 2 to 3 (2 points) |
| | | C 1 (1 point) | None (No points) |
| | | List partner organization(s): | |
| | | | Field Office, California Turtle and Tortoise Club, Lancaster High vice, Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife |
| 6. | ı | Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - G | Q 6. |
| | 6. | . The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact | to natural and cultural resources by 2 |
| | | (Check all that apply): Maximum of 7 points (| (Please select applicable values) |
| | | Maintaining physical barriers to control O | HV use (1 point) |
| | | Protecting water quality (1 point) | |
| | | Providing bridges instead of wet crossing | |
| | | Protecting special-status species (1 point | |
| | | Re-routing trails to divert away from ripar | ian/wetlands areas (1 point) |
| | | Providing sanitary facilities (1 point) | |
| | | □ Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)□ Site design precludes the need for the ab | pove measures (7 points) |
| | | | , , , , , , |
| | | Explain each statement that was checked | |
| | | • | e installation of desert tortoise fencing will reinforce the existing authorized trespass into the interior of the Desert Tortoise Research |
| | | Protecting Specials Status Species: The insta | allation of desert tortoise exclusion fencing will function to protect two |

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing

ground squirrel (Spermophilus mohavensis).

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tortoise (Gopherus agassizii). Once installed the fencing will also function to protect the threatened Mohave

6/2/2009

Application: Ground Operations-Fencing (Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values) Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point) Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point) Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point) Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point) Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point) Sustainable Technologies - Q 8. 8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 0 Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind) Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet) Low flow plumbing fixtures Water efficient landscaping (Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list) (No (No points) C Yes (4 points) Explain 'Yes' response Motorized Access - Q 9. 9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following nonmotorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

Birding

☐ Equestrian trails
☐ Rock Climbing

8.

9.

Camping

Fishing

▼ Other (Specify) [Wildflower identification]

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